

MINUTES
Jamestown Local Development Corporation
October 25, 2023

A meeting of the Jamestown Local Development Corporation was held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Kimberly Ecklund
Vicki McGraw
Eddie Sundquist
Jeff Russell
Luke Fodor
Peggy Kaltenmeier
Melissa Himes

Others Present: Stephanie Wright, Economic Development
Coordinator

Tim Odell, Grant Manager
Todd Trantum, Executive Director of MAST

Mayor Sundquist called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

The first item on the agenda was consideration for approval of the JLDC Board of Directors' meeting minutes for the September 20, 2023 meeting.

Vicki McGraw made a motion, seconded by Luke Fodor, to approve the minutes.

7 AYE 0 NAY

Carried.

Next item on the agenda was consideration for approval of the September Financial Reports. Kimberly Ecklund had a question over the net income loss included on the Profit and Loss Report. Mayor Sundquist said that clarification would be provided by John Sellstrom, and that voting on the financial reports would be put on hold until the JLDC meeting in November.

Next on the agenda was Todd Trantum, Executive Director of Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier, who delivered a proposal to use \$51,002 from the \$500,000 in ARPA funds allocated for workforce development.

Mayor Sundquist introduced Mr. Trantum, and added that the proposal he will present is for a workforce development program that is separate from the trades workforce program managed by the Southern Tier Builders Exchange.

Mr. Trantum started his presentation by sharing that Jamestown was selected to participate in the National League of Cities' Good Jobs Great Cities (GJGC) Academy along with fifteen other cities. He explained that this is a once in a life-time opportunity for collaboration with fifteen other cities and to build a partnership with the Department of Labor. He further discussed how a systems approach to workforce development will build a pathway for students to good paying jobs, and upskill and reskill adults to higher paying jobs, and connect employers to skilled workers.

Mr. Trantum's proposal was to lead Jamestown's GJGC Initiative by personally providing project management and facilitation that is required to make the project successful, and to help determine how to use the remaining workforce development funds to support workforce development programs and partners. He provided a spreadsheet detailing the cost for him to manage and facilitate the GJGC Initiative.

Mr. Trantum was asked by members of the Board how he plans to facilitate the project, which manufacturers would support training, and current hiring practices.

A motion was made by Luke Fodor, seconded by Jeff Russell to approve Mr. Trantum's proposal of \$51,002 for managing and facilitating the GJGC Initiative. Melissa Himes recused herself from this vote.

6 AYE 0 NAY 1 Abstention

Carried

Next on the agenda, Tim Odell presented an overview of the applications received for the second round of the Building and Property Infrastructure Improvement Program grant. Applications were received from Embroidered Designs by Debbie, United Industries, Inc., Chautauqua Art Gallery, AM Suchar & Sons Public Accountants, Miragilia Development, LLC, Fenton Associates, and Glorious Beauty Salon. Mr. Odell went on to explain that because there was only \$75,624.97 available for this second round of funding, all seven applicants would receive less than the max grant amount of \$25,000. So that each applicant would receive some funding, awards were based on Rubric scores, with the highest score receiving seventy-percent of the requested amount, and the lowest score receiving only twenty-percent. He provided a spreadsheet detailing the applications, the rubric score and scale, and the amount of each award.

A motion was made by Jeff Russell, seconded by Melissa Himes, to approve the funding amounts for the second round of the Building and Property Infrastructure Improvement program grant.

7 AYE

0 NAY

Next, Stephanie Wright presented a Fund for Downtown Programming (FDP) application submitted by Pat Smeraldo of Children's Collaborative Solutions (CCS), with a request of a \$39,500 grant and a \$15,000 loan to fund both the 2023 Jamestown NY St. Patrick's Day Celebration and the 2024 Gus Macker Basketball Tourney.

Stephanie began by stating that there is only \$3,100 remaining in the FDP, and although the plan was to ask City Council for a reallocation of \$200,000, to continue funding the FDP, the deadline for the Gus Macker's schedule is November 1, 2023. For that reason, Ms. Wright stated that Mr. Smeraldo pulled his funding request for the Gus Macker. To support CCS's St. Patrick's Day Celebration, Ms. Wright requested that the remaining FDP funds go to CCS.

A motion was made by Kimberly Ecklund, seconded by Luke Fodor, to award the remaining FDP funds to CCS's St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

7 AYE

0 NAY

Carried.

Seeing no other new business to be brought to the table, and no need for an executive session, a motion was made by Luke Fodor, seconded by Kimberly Ecklund to adjourn.

7 AYE

0 NAY

Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Wright
Economic Development Coordinator